

Chepachet Fire District

Executive Committee – Monthly Meeting

February 26th, 2014

The Chepachet Fire District monthly meeting was held at the Chepachet Fire Station on Wednesday, February 26th, 2014. Chairman Earl Newman called the meeting to order at 6:30pm. Members present were Robert Lohr, Lynda Martone, George Leonhardt and Eric Croft. Also present were Treasurer David Steere, District Clerk/Secretary Darlene Shields, Chief Robert Dauphinais and Deputy Chief Dennis Huestis and Tax Collector Patricia Svansson.

Secretary's Report:

All members have received copies of the minutes for January 15th, 2014 Monthly Board Meeting.

Motion made by Mrs. Martone to accept the minutes as presented, second by Mr. Lohr and passed 5-0.

VOTER YES NO Abstaining

Earl K Newman, Chairman X

Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X

George Leonhardt X

Lynda Martone X

Eric Croft X

Tax Collector's Report:

Mrs. Svansson stated money has been coming in very well and has collected \$290,000 for the month of January and February.

Payments are be made before we start charging interest after the 1st of March. Mrs. Svansson also indicated she has started working on the tax sale list for this year and wanted to know if the board wanted to stay with the same attorney as what we have used the last 2 years.

Mrs. Martone questioned Mrs. Svansson if she has been pleased with their service and Mrs. Svansson indicated she has been very pleased.

Motion made by Mr. Leonhardt to accept the Tax Collector's Monthly Report, second by Mr. Croft and passed 5-0.

VOTER YES NO Abstaining

Earl K Newman, Chairman X

Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X

George Leonhardt X

Lynda Martone X

Eric Croft X

Motion made by Mrs. Martone to use Attorney Glenn Carlson for the

2014 Tx Sale, second by Mr. Lohr and passed 5-0.

VOTER YES NO Abstaining

Earl K Newman, Chairman X

Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X

George Leonhardt X

Lynda Martone X

Eric Croft X

Treasurer Report:

Mr. Steere presented the Treasurer's Monthly Reports for February 2014. Mr. Steere stated that the expenses are inline as to where we are through this fiscal year at 67% and expenses at 61%. Some accounts are over the 67% most part those are payments are one time payments. Mr. Steere made note of the telephone account being at 76% percent. Mrs. Shields indicated that the monthly counts have slightly increased and Chief Dauphinais also made mention that an additional phone line for the rescue needed to be added for the new reporting system. Last page of report indicates \$385,000 in restricted funds and \$365,00 in unrestricted funds or overall in good shape. 3rd Party just a little shy of reached \$12,500 per month we are averaging \$12,000 per month. If we can reach \$12,500 a month that would give an annual collection of \$150,000 and with no truck fund

you can put \$50,000 towards a truck fund as \$100,000 goes towards the budget. Chief made note that a New Rescue will be happening soon as the current rescue has over 90,000 miles and has needed repairs this year. Mr. Steere feels that when we get closer to the annual meeting see what kind of surplus money is available and put that aside for the new Rescue. Chief feels a new rescue may run around \$180,000.

Motion made by Mrs. Martone to accept the Treasurer's Report as presented and to pay the monthly bills, second by Mr. Lohr and Passed 5-0.

VOTER YES NO Abstaining

Earl K Newman, Chairman X

Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X

George Leonhardt X

Lynda Martone X

Eric Croft X

Chief's Report:

Chief Dauphinais read and submitted the January 2014 Chief's Monthly Reports to be placed on file.

Motion made by Mrs. Martone to accept the Chief's Monthly Report

for November 2013, second by Mr. Croft and passed 5-0.

VOTER YES NO Abstaining

Earl K Newman, Chairman X

Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X

George Leonhardt X

Lynda Martone X

Eric Croft X

Committee: Charter Committee: Tabled

Old Business:

1. Septic: Progress: No update from (Susan B. Capasso) as of yet.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Annual Banquet

a. Chief Daphinais advised that the Annual 3 Department Banquet will be on May 31st at Thompson Speedway.

2. Street Lights:

a. Mr. Croft has noticed many street lights that are out and provided a list with the pole numbers. Mrs. Shields will call Nationgrid as to lights that are out.

3. Communications;

a. Chief Dauphinais advised that due to FCC forced of narrow banding which weakened the frequencies so the communication that were bad to start off with are now worse due to the narrow banding. simulcasting is what is recommended to fix the system. An estimated cost to fix the problem is \$250,000 to \$300,000 to be a shared between the 3 Departments. The three Chiefs feel that if each Department starts looking to put \$30,000 each year for the next 3 years to cover this cost.

A company who compiled all the information which took a year to do so and that information was presented to Motorola as to how to fix the problem. The company mapped out the existing system in of the town. Mr. Newman questioned if anyone else besides the 3 departments use this system. Chief advised that only the three departments use the system. Chief advised that in other areas that have had the same problems with their communications have also moved to the simulcasting system.

Mrs. Martone asked if FCC would be able to help. Chief said FCC doesn't care and will fine if not following their rules. Mr. Steere questioned if it could wait three years. Mr. Newman questioned if this is a safety issue. Chief said yes this is a safety issue. Mr. Newman

questioned if this is a safety issue then maybe getting the system fixed now and looking into getting a loan is something to be looked into.

Mr. Newman would like to have the three districts meet to discuss the problem. Mr. Newman feels that maybe a couple of board members from each department come together to meet to discuss this. Mr. Steere feels that the meeting should be sooner or later with Budget talks for new fiscal year budgets being discussed this time of year. Chief Dauphinais will contact the other 2 Chiefs to discuss setting up a meeting.

The next meeting will be the Monthly Meeting February 19th, 2014 at 6:30pm.

With no further business at this time, motion made by Mr. Lohr to adjourn, second by Mrs. Martone and passed 5-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:53pm.

VOTER YES NO Abstaining

Earl K Newman, Chairman X

Robert Lohr, Vice Chairman X

George Leonhardt X

Lynda Martone X

Eric Croft X

Respectfully submitted, ~~~~~

Darlene L Shields

Darlene L. Shields

District Clerk / Chepachet Fire District